UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Koichi Ono Confirmation No.: 1733

Serial No. : 10/626,759 Filed : July 21, 2003

TC/A.U. : 1731

Examiner

Docket No. : 03-485 Customer No. : 34704

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant hereby submits the prior art listed hereinbelow, copies enclosed, which prior art was cited in the corresponding application.

- (1) U.S. Patent No. 6,406,636 entitled METHODS FOR WAFER TO WAFER BONDING USING MICROSTRUCTURES, By Vaganov, patented June 18, 2002. The patent is attached hereto.
- (2) U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0053399 entitled METHODS FOR FABRICATING ENCLOSED MICROCHANNEL STRUCTURES, By Soane et al., patented May 9, 2002. The patent is attached hereto.
- (3) International Publication No. WO 01/91902 entitled METHODS AND DEVICES FOR SEALING MICROCHIP RESERVOIR DEVICES, By Shawgo et al., published December 6, 2001. The patent is attached hereto.

- (4) International Publication No. WO 02/07884 entitled COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR LIQUID METERING IN MICROCHANNELS, By Handique et al., published January 31, 2002. The patent is attached hereto.
- (5) International Publication No. WO 01/98759 entitled
 INTEGRATED OPTICAL WAVEGUIDES FOR MICROFLUIDIC ANALYSIS
 SYSTEMS, By Johnck et al., published December 27, 2001.
 The patent is attached hereto.

The undersigned hereby certifies that each item contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in the European search report issued on December 9, 2003.

The undersigned submits the above-identified references for independent consideration by the Examiner and does not make any admission that these references are or are not material to the present invention or that these references are or are not prior art with respect to the present invention.

Respectfully submitted,

Koichi Ono.

Gregory P. LaRointe Attorney for Applicant

Tel: / (203) 777-6628 Fax: (203) 865-0297

Date: January 29, 2004

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on January 29, 2004.

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PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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Application Number	10/626,759	
Filing Date	July 21, 2003	
First Named Inventor	Koichi Ono	
Art Unit	1733	
Examiner Name		
Attorney Docket Number	03-485	_

Complete if Known

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant
		Number-Kind Code ^{2 (# known)}			Figures Appear
		^{US-} 6,406,636	06-18-2002	Vaganov	
		^{US-} 2002/0053399	05-09-2002	Soane et al.	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages	T
		Country Code ³ *Number ⁴ *Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY		Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		WO 01/91902	12-06-2001	Shawgo et al.		
		WO 02/07884	01-31-2002	Handique et al.		
		WO 01/98759	12-27-2001	Johnck et al.		

Examiner	Date	\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \
Signature	Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.